

Publication Strategies in Regional Science

Keynote presentation at the conference of the Spanish Regional Science Association, Palacio de Exposiciones y Congressis "Ciudad de Oviedo", Oviedo (Spain), 22 november 2013.

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Elected as next President ERSA 1914 - 1918

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Overview

- > Regional Science Association
- > Knowledge production
- > Publication outlets
- > Performance indicators of journals
- > Publications strategies, Open Access
- > Performance indicators of individuals
- > How to get your paper published: do's and dont's
- > Final remarks

Editorial functions Jouke van Dijk

- Editor-in-Chief Papers in Regional Science 2007-2012, Editor 2005-2006, now member of the Editorial Board
- Associate Editor: Journal of Economic and Social Geography (since 2002)
- Editor bookseries Regional Science published by Springer: "Advances in Spatial Science" (since 2012)
- Member Editorial Board: Journal of Geographical Systems (since 2007), Regional Science Policy & Practice, Romanian Journal of Regional Science (since 2007), Review of Regional Research (Jahrbuch für Regionalwissenschaft) and PiRS (since 2013)

Regional Science Association International (RSAI)

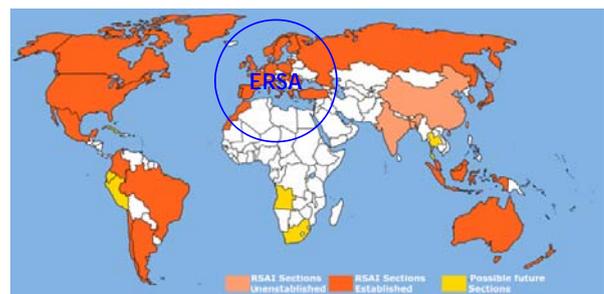


- Founded in 1954 by Walter Isard
- Started by economists, with the intention to be a multi- and interdisciplinary organization. Now geographers, planners, sociologists etc. also participate
- > 5.000 international members.
- President: Jean-Claude Thill, USA
- Next President 2014: Andres Rodriguez-Pose

Main supraregional structure of RSAI



Country and language sections over the world



ERSA structure and activities

- Currently 18 sections, newest is the Baltic section established in 2013 → ERSA Council; EOC
- President Charlie Karlsson (Sweden) till 1-1-2014
- Annual congress
 - 2013: 53th ERSA Congress in Palermo, Italy
 - 2014: 54th ERSA Congress in St Petersburg, Russia
 - 2015: 55th ERSA Congress in Lisbon, Portugal
- Annual Summerschool
- Epainos Prize for Young Scientist
- Etc.

Start of Regional Science in Europe

Isard's 1960 Tour to Promote Regional Science



An ideal time to promote regional science and the Regional Science Association:

• Isard's *Methods in Regional Science* published

• North American base was by now well established

• RSA constitution now allowed for the formation of sections



During the summer of 1960, Isard brought his large family to Europe and toured the continent in a VW microbus, stopping off for conferences along the way.

Isard's 1960 Tour to Promote Regional Science



ERSA Congress venues

1961
-
2015

- 1960s
- 1970s
- 1980s
- 1990s
- 2000s
- 2010s



Knowledge production

- Knowledge production is important for society
 - But for the use of knowledge dissemination and valorisation is maybe even more important
 - Several ways to do this → among these are various types of scientific outlets, articles, books, but also presenting papers and interaction at conferences, workshops etc.
- Strategies for knowledge production and dissemination

Publication strategies: who's strategy?

- Society → public knowledge is a key asset for innovation, economic growth and well-being
- Individuals → making a career
- Publishers → making money
- Departments → good assesment, reputation
- Editors → making a 'good' journal
- Organisations (like ERSA, RSAI): flagship journal(s)
 - What is good? High impact on science and/or policy? Flagship of an organisation? Many readers? Many downloads? Many citations? ISI-rated with High Impact Factor? Open Access?



Open Access: results free to read for everyone

- Advantage for readers and for society: scientific knowledge is available for free for everyone
- Often for the research is already paid by tax-payers; more and more funding organizations require Open Access → EU Horizon 2020, national science foundations, etc.
- Advantage for the authors: more readers and a higher chance of being cited
- But: who pays for producing the journal? Editorial Office, website, printing? No free lunch!



European Commission promotes Open Access:

*The European Commission objective is to optimise the impact of publicly-funded scientific research, both at European level (FP7, Horizon 2020) and at Member State level. **One way to get there is Open Access.** Results of publicly-funded research can therefore be disseminated more broadly and faster, to the benefit of researchers, innovative industry and citizens. Open access can also boost the visibility of European research, and in particular offer small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) access to the latest research for utilisation.*



Open access models:

- ◆ **Green open access self-archiving.** Authors pay no fees, but there is no guarantee of the material having been peer reviewed. Authors also have to self-archive their work to allow public access.
- ◆ **Gold open access publishing.** Authors pay to have their manuscript open access immediately upon publication in a journal after peer review, making it a sustainable process for publishers. The difficulty with this is that the costs for the author are often very high, which may limit those without access to sufficient funds. **Universities may pay twice: for publication an article OA and for subscription to a journal for the non-open access articles**
- ◆ **Diamond open access.** involves no paywall for access and no fee for the author, is inclusive of peer review, and hosts the final version of the article → a combination of the best features of both green and gold access. However, the problem is who pays!



Goals and Strategies of Publishers

- Collection of related journals in a field: good for selling packages, price policy for packages not for each journal
- Provide assistance (and sometimes payments) to Editors in the publishing and review process: software for handling manuscript submissions and the peer review process (like Scholar One), marketing, exhibitions at conferences, sponsoring of conferences, prizes, journal webpages, quick publishing, paying for Editorial Office, generating revenues for associations in terms of money, services (membership administration), access to other journals for members, discount for members on books, etc.



Publishers: how to make money with a journal?

- Subscriptions by individuals
- Subscriptions by libraries
- Publisher package deals with libraries, research institutes, etc.
- Submission fees or publications fees
- Open Access fees
- Sponsors
- Official journal of a scholarly organization like RSAI, ERSA, etc. : members free access + revenues for the associations



Who pays for Open Access?

- Scholarly society with free Open Access journal: ERSA
- Authors or funding body pay submission/publication fee
- Mixed journals: authors pay a fee to the publisher to make their article Open Access, prices per article e.g.:
 - Springer Annals of Regional Science, Wiley Blackwell (PIRS/JRS); US\$ 3000/EUR 2200 (excl. VAT)
 - Taylor and Francis Regional Studies, Spatial Economic Analysis, US\$2,950 (£1,788 / €2,150)
 - Elsevier \$500USD to \$5000USD Regional Science and Urban Economics: \$USD 1800, excluding taxes.
 - Oxford University Press £1000-£2500

What is the drive for your research?

- Curiosity?
- Making the world better?
- **Making money, making a career?**
 - University Career Policies: teaching / research
 - Sticks and carrots
 - Choice of research environment, co-authors, access to data, etc.
 - Role of conferences, workshops for knowledge exchange, networking, etc.
 - Type and quality of publications

Publications and your career

- Internal career: which type of publications are valued by your boss, your department, your university?
 - External career: and which by your next employer?
 - Several departments / universities / disciplines / countries have their own selection of 'good' and 'excellent' journals and book publishers and this may thus differ per university, country and for e.g. economists and geographers
 - Publishers and journals have a strategy how journals and books(series) will be positioned
- you need to have a strategy about where to publish!

Where to get your paper published?

- › Chapter in a book?
 - Which Publisher?
- › Journal?
 - National? International?
 - Open Access?
 - ISI rated Journal? Highest Impact Factor?
 - Reputation Publisher?
 - Related content?
 - Special Issues?
 - High acceptance rate?
 - Speed of decision making?

Reputation of Journals

- Scientific results should be trusted and be true → Peer review system
- Check on quality and newness, detect fraud, plagiarism
- ISI Thomson, Web of Science: Impact Factor → Impact factors can be manipulated, citation cultures differ by discipline and even within disciplines
- Open Access journals: still lower reputation
- Why do some journals not have an Impact Factor? Publisher have to apply for an Impact Factor
- **Investigaciones Regionales**
- Fennia: a 'peripheral' but a well-established international Finnish geographical journal

Fennia: number of citations in ISI-journals

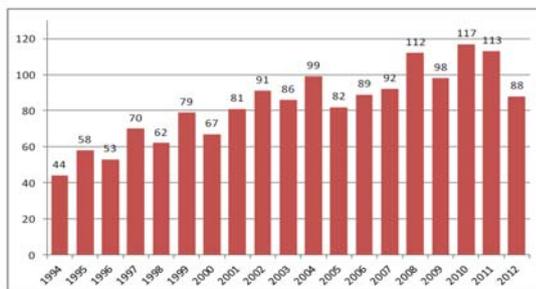


Fig. 1. Number of citations to articles published in Fennia (in journals classified in ISI database).

Regional Science Journals

- RSAI Flagship journal: **Papers in Regional Science**
- Since 2008 also: **Regional Science Policy & Practice**
- Other international regional science journals: **Journal of Regional Science, Regional Studies, Annals of Regional Science, Regional Science & Urban Economics, International Regional Science Review, Spatial Economics Analysis, Growth and Change, etc. etc.**
- Also (Journal of) **Economic Geography, Environment and Planning A-D, Geographical Analysis, European Planning Studies, Urban Studies, Journal of Geographical Systems, Economic Systems**
- Section journals: **Investigaciones Regionales, Review of Regional Research (Jahrbuch für Regionalwissenschaft), Romanian Journal of Regional Science, etc.**
- ERSa initiative: **New Open Access journal REGION??**

Goals and strategies of Journal Editors

- Best journal in a broad field or in a specific area
- Best journal for policy relevance
- Best journal for new methods
- Best journal for applied research or theoretical papers
- Best journal for review articles
- Specialize in short papers, with/without bookreviews, short turnaround time?
- What is best? Citations? Impact factor 2 or 5 year? Readers, Downloads?
- Is becoming a journal editor good for your career?
- And member of an Editorial Board?
- How to become a member of an EB? Make good reviews!

Editorial policy PiRS:

- Flagship Journal RSAI: broad scope, covering the broad field of Regional Science and papers from all over the world
- Attract more and higher quality submissions
- Publish interesting special issues, like China
- Keep quick turnaround time on first submission with help of reviewers and members of the Editorial Board
- Answer emails of authors, reviewers, etc. quick (1-2 days)
- Acceptance rate: < 30% (we have to: per year 200 submissions, 43 articles published)
- Publish accepted papers quickly online (Early View, with unique DOI-number, important for citing) and in print < 1 yr
- **Keep Impact Factor > 1**

Journal Performance: Journal Citation Reports (JCR) by ISI Web of Science

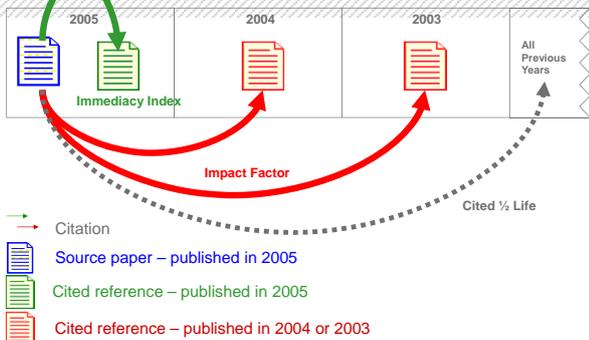
Performance indicators:

- **Impact Factor:** Provides a way to evaluate or compare a journal's relative importance to others in the same field
- **Immediacy Index:** Measures how quickly an article is cited during year published
- **Cited Half-Life:** Benchmarks the age of cited articles; tells you how long are published articles valuable knowledge

Mark	Journal Title	ISSN	Total Cites	Impact Factor	5-Year Impact Factor	Immediacy Index	Citable Items	Cited Half-life	Citing Half-life
	PAP REG SCI	1056-8190	961	1.541	1.731	0.225	40	9.0	9.6

Journal Information:
 Full Journal Title: PAPERS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE
 ISO Abbrev. Title: Pap. Reg. Sci.
 JCR Abbrev. Title: PAP REG SCI
 ISSN: 1056-8190
 Issues / Year: 4
 Language: ENGLISH
 Journal Country/Territory: ENGLAND
 Publisher: WILEY-BLACKWELL
 Publisher Address: 111 RIVER ST, HOBOKEN 07030-5774, NJ
 Subject Categories: ECONOMICS, ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES, GEOGRAPHY

Eigenfactor Metrics:
 Eigenfactor Score: 0.00225
 Article Influence Score: 0.688



Citation information: www.thomsonisi.com, Scopus / Publish or Perish / Google Scholar also for individuals

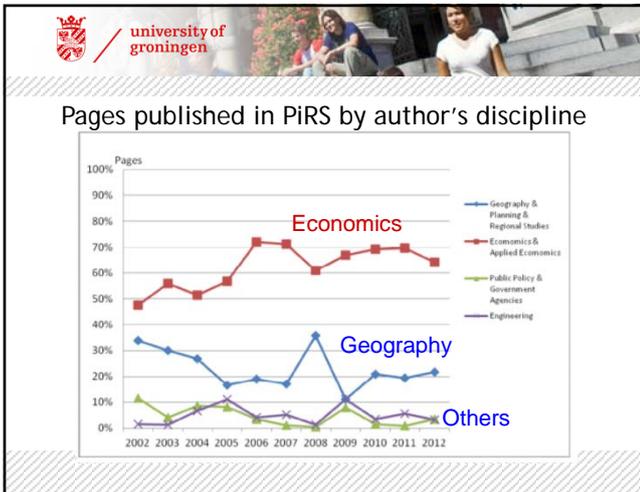
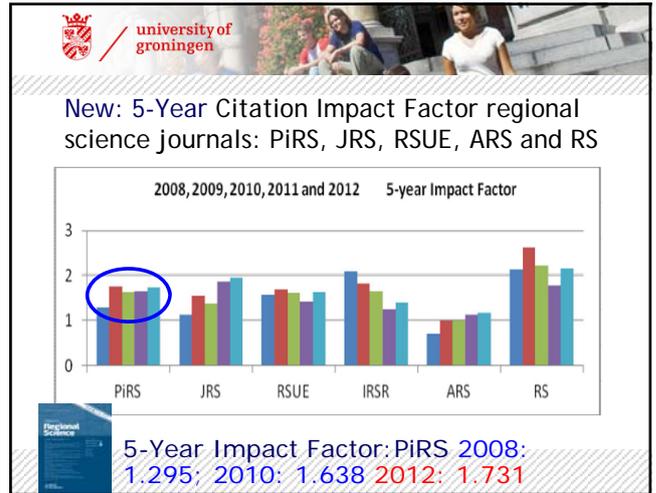
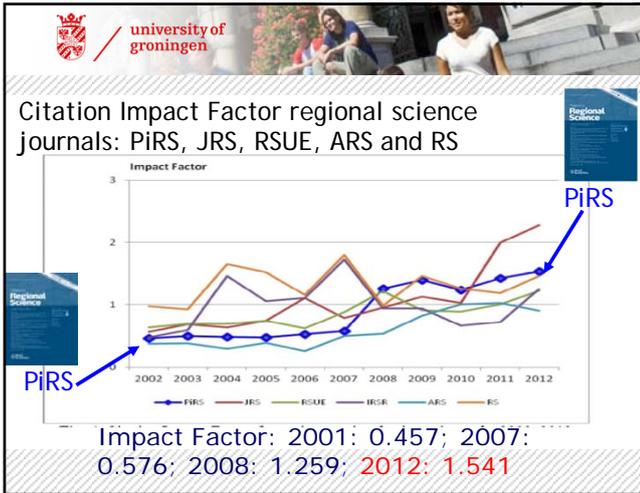
Calculation of the Impact Factor

Journal Impact Factor

Cites in 2012 to items published in: 2011 = 38	Number of items published in: 2011 = 42
2010 = 93	2010 = 43
Sum: 131	Sum: 85
Calculation: $\frac{\text{Cites to recent items}}{\text{Number of recent items}} = \frac{131}{85} = 1.541$	

5-Year Journal Impact Factor

Cites in {2012} to items published in: 2011 = 38	Number of items published in: 2011 = 42
2010 = 93	2010 = 43
2009 = 58	2009 = 43
2008 = 66	2008 = 29
2007 = 67	2007 = 29
Sum: 322	Sum: 186
Calculation: $\frac{\text{Cites to recent items}}{\text{Number of recent items}} = \frac{322}{186} = 1.731$	



- university of groningen
- ### Ranking of PiRS based on Impact Factor is also used to rank PiRS in three ISI categories:
- Geography, Environmental Studies and Economics since 2011
 - No ranking in: Urban Studies, Planning and Development
 - Choosing a category is not on the Editors or the Publisher. The Publisher has to apply and citations to and from other Economics journals were a strong argument to obtain a listing in Economics for PiRS
 - Citation information:
 1. Which journals cite articles published in PiRS
 2. Which journals are cited in PiRS

university of groningen

ISI Web of KnowledgeSM Journal Citation Reports[®]

WELCOME HELP RETURN TO JOURNAL 2012

Rank in Category: PAPERS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE

Journal Ranking ⓘ
For 2012, the journal PAPERS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE has an Impact Factor of 1.541.

This table shows the ranking of this journal in its subject categories based on Impact Factor.

Category Name	Total Journals in Category	Journal Rank in Category	Quartile in Category
ECONOMICS	333	74	Q1
ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES	93	33	Q2
GEOGRAPHY	72	27	Q2

university of groningen

Other measures:

Immediacy Index: cites in year of publication

Cites in 2012 to items published in 2012 = 9
Number of items published in 2012 = 40
Calculation: $\frac{\text{Cites to current items}}{\text{Number of current items}} = \frac{9}{40} = 0.225$

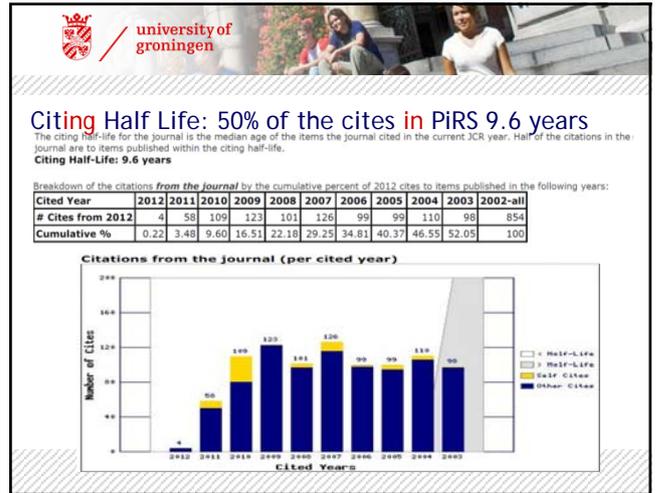
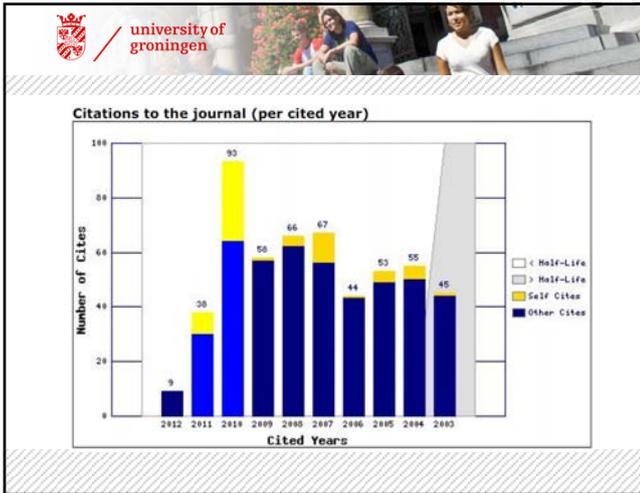
Cited Half Life: 50% cites to PiRS articles in last 9 yrs
The cited half-life for the journal is the median age of its items cited in the current JCR year. Half of the citations to the journal are to items published within the cited half-life.
Cited Half-Life: 9.0 years

Breakdown of the citations to the journal by the cumulative percent of 2012 cites to items published in the following years:

Cited Year	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	2002-all
# Cites from 2012	9	38	93	58	66	67	44	53	55	45	433
Cumulative %	0.94	4.89	14.57	20.60	27.47	34.44	39.02	44.54	50.26	54.94	100

Cited Half-Life Calculations:
The cited half-life calculation finds the number of publication years from the current JCR year that account for 50% of citations received by the journal. Read help for more information on the calculation.

Half of the citations to PiRS cite articles that are published in PiRS more than 9 years ago → long lasting knowledge!



ISI Web of KnowledgeSM Journal Citation Reports[®] 2012 JCR Social Science Edition

Which journals cite PIRS?

Cited Journal: PAPERS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE
 Number of times articles published in 2012 (in years below) cited articles published in PAP REG SCI (in years below). (How to read this table)

Impact	Citing Journal	Cited Year											
		All Yrs	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	Rest
All Journals		961	9	38	93	58	66	67	44	53	55	45	433
ALL OTHERS (155)		155	2	5	5	11	6	9	9	5	6	4	93
1.541 PAP REG SCI		76	0	8	29	1	4	11	1	4	5	1	12
0.901 ANN REGIONAL SCI		69	0	1	10	2	4	1	4	4	7	8	28
1.465 REG STUD		37	0	2	3	3	7	4	1	1	4	0	12
2.279 J REGIONAL SCI		35	0	1	9	2	5	1	3	3	0	1	10
1.942 J TRANSP GEOGR		31	1	0	1	4	2	0	1	1	3	1	17
0.562 EUR PLAN STUD		24	0	0	1	3	5	2	2	1	1	2	7
1.228 REG SCI URBAN ECON		20	0	1	2	3	5	0	1	4	0	0	4
2.779 APPL GEOGR		19	0	3	0	2	3	1	1	0	0	2	7
1.630 ENVIRON PLANN A		17	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	11
1.613 INT J GEOGR INF SCI		17	0	0	1	5	0	0	0	0	3	0	8
0.557 ECON MODEL		17	0	0	0	1	4	0	5	1	0	3	3
1.375 SPAT ECON ANAL		15	0	0	0	1	0	4	2	2	1	1	4
1.493 URBAN STUD		15	0	1	2	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	7
2.600 J ECON GEOGR		15	0	0	2	0	2	2	0	3	1	1	4
1.674 COMPUT ENVIRON URBAN		13	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	10
0.986 J ECON SURV		11	0	1	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	1	3
0.753 J DISCHR ECON SOC GE		11	0	2	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	4
1.900 GEOGR ANAL		10	0	0	0	3	1	0	0	0	1	0	5
2.110 ANN ASSOC AM GEOGR		10	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	8

ISI Web of KnowledgeSM Journal Citation Reports[®] 2012 JCR Social Science Edition

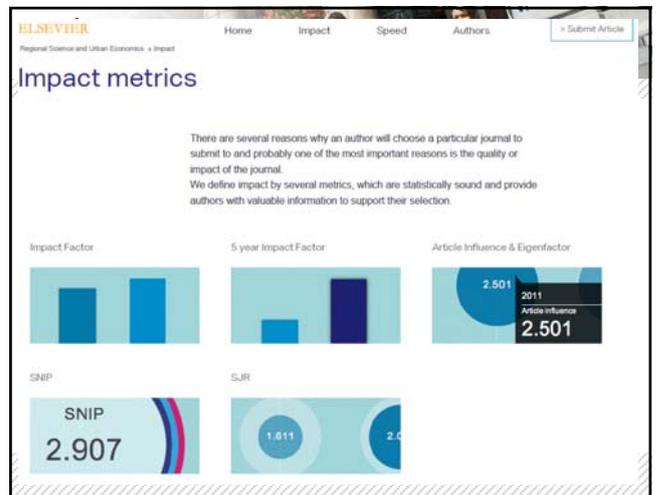
Which journals are cited in PIRS?

Citing Journal: PAPERS IN REGIONAL SCIENCE
 Number of times articles published in journals below (in years below) were cited in PAP REG SCI in 2012. (How to read this table)

Impact	Cited Journal	Cited Year											
		All Yrs	2012	2011	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	2004	2003	Rest
All Journals		1781	4	58	109	123	101	126	99	99	110	98	854
ALL OTHERS (615)		615	4	32	38	39	42	42	50	37	24	44	263
1.541 PAP REG SCI		76	0	8	29	1	4	11	1	4	5	1	12
1.465 REG STUD		49	0	1	4	0	3	5	0	9	2	3	22
1.910 J URBAN ECON		45	0	0	4	3	3	4	1	1	1	5	23
2.279 J REGIONAL SCI		42	0	1	3	3	1	0	2	2	5	0	25
3.483 J POLIT ECON		39	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	37
2.792 AM ECON REV		39	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	2	31
1.228 REG SCI URBAN ECON		35	0	1	0	6	2	4	1	3	3	2	13
2.346 REV ECON STAT		30	0	0	0	0	1	0	4	0	2	1	22
0.901 ANN REGIONAL SCI		30	0	1	2	9	2	0	6	3	1	3	3
2.600 J ECON GEOGR		24	0	1	0	3	0	4	1	2	6	2	5
5.278 Q J ECON		24	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
1.257 INT REGIONAL SCI REV		22	0	0	0	1	0	3	2	0	1	5	10
2.850 RES POLICY		19	0	0	2	2	0	1	2	3	0	2	7
1.710 J ECONOMETRICS		19	0	0	4	0	0	3	0	0	2	2	8
1.331 EUR ECON REV		18	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	3	2	0	12
2.860 REV ECON STUD		17	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	0	11
1.630 ENVIRON PLANN A		16	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	12
3.823 ECONOMETRICA		15	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	2	0	11
0.489 GROWTH CHANGE		15	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	2	1	0	9

Journals 1 - 20 (of 122)			Journals 1 - 20 (of 181)		
Impact	Citing Journal	All Yrs	Impact	Cited Journal	All Yrs
All Journals		961	All Journals		1781
ALL OTHERS (155)		155	ALL OTHERS (615)		615
1.541 PAP REG SCI		76	1.541 PAP REG SCI		76
0.901 ANN REGIONAL SCI		69	1.465 REG STUD		49
1.465 REG STUD		37	1.910 J URBAN ECON		45
2.279 J REGIONAL SCI		35	2.279 J REGIONAL SCI		42
1.942 J TRANSP GEOGR		31	3.483 J POLIT ECON		39
0.562 EUR PLAN STUD		24	2.792 AM ECON REV		39
1.228 REG SCI URBAN ECON		20	1.228 REG SCI URBAN ECON		35
2.779 APPL GEOGR		19	2.346 REV ECON STAT		30
1.630 ENVIRON PLANN A		17	0.901 ANN REGIONAL SCI		30
1.613 INT J GEOGR INF SCI		17	2.600 J ECON GEOGR		24

PIRS is cited mainly in other Regional Science, Geography and Planning journals where the articles published in PIRS cite very often major economic journals



Regional Science and Urban Economics

Regional Science and Urban Economics exists to facilitate and encourage high quality scholarship on important theoretical and empirical issues in urban and regional research. Given a rapidly changing field...

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Number of submission and rejection rates of PIRS

Table 1. Number of submissions and rejection rates

Cohort	Submissions	Acceptance rate	Rejection rate	Pending manuscripts
2002	79	0.39	0.61	
2003	63	0.35	0.65	
2004	88	0.37	0.63	
2005	71	0.36	0.64	
2006	80	0.38	0.62	
2007	144	0.27	0.73	
2008	108	0.23	0.77	
2009	178	0.34	0.66	
2010	163	0.32	0.68	1
2011	182	0.27	0.73	3
2012	197	0.14	0.86	103

Speed: Manuscript processing PIRS in months

Table 2. Manuscript processing in months

Cohort	First decision	Second decision	Third decision	Final decision of acceptance to Early View	Final decision to publication in print
2002	5.2	3.5	1	—	8
2003	6.1	3.9	1	—	9.2
2004	5.6	3.3	1.5	—	9
2005	6.1	2.9	—	—	12.8
2006	5.4	4.9	—	9	11.9
2007	3.1	2.7	1.3	7.4	11.4
2008	2.5	2.4	0.8	5.6	10.4
2009	3	2.6	1.5	2.9	8.8
2010	3.2	2.9	1.3	2.6	9
2011	3.1	2.5	2	1.9	11.4
2012	3	2.6	1.2	3.4	4.9

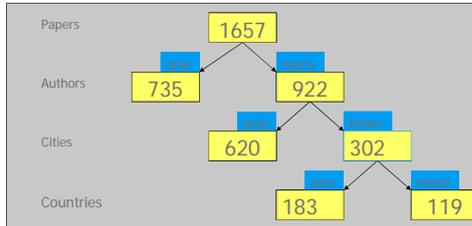
- ### Which papers will be published?
- FIRST: you have to pass the editors and avoid a direct-of desk-reject with no feedback
 - Make in the first page clear what is new in your paper and why it is interesting to read more than the first page
 - Choice of the journal: choose an ISI-rated journal with an Impact Factor, but also look at the journal and see if you do similar things in your paper with regard to the theoretical framework, methodology and topics as already published articles. Cite the journal if possible.
 - The paper must be very well embedded in the literature
 - The paper must be of general interest to the world-wide audience reading this journal

- ### Which papers will be published?
- Use up-to-date methodology, but don't forget the interpretation and (policy) message!
 - Try to interpret spatial econometrics results, fixed effects, etc. (although several journals ignore this)
 - Use good (not perfect!) English
 - Papers should not be too long or too short: check the journals instructions for authors
 - Do not pay too much attention to the formatting of references, tables, figures etc. when you submit, but the paper must be complete and clear
 - Formatting requested by the journal can be done when the paper is accepted for publication

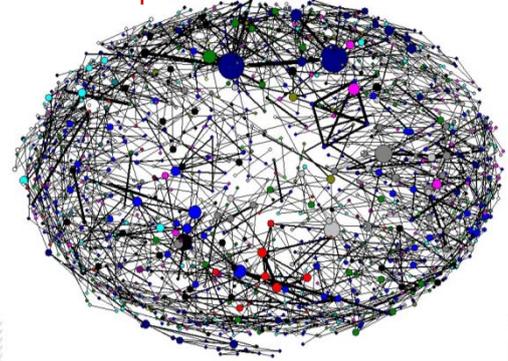
- ### Review process Papers in Regional Science
- Start: Paper submission by author(s)
 - Editorial Office: is paper complete?
 - Task Editor: check if paper fits in journal policy: if not: direct (or desk) reject without review feedback, if OK:
 - Double blind (anonymous) refereeing: three reviewers
 - Decision letter to author(s) with review reports
 - Judgement: **accept** - **minor/major revision** - **reject**
 - Submit revised version with detailed answers to questions referees by the authors in separate document, but do NOT change all kind of other things!
 - Revised version again to referees, second (third round)
 - Again decision letter to author(s) with review report
→ Publication (or not)? PIRS: rejects 75%

Analysis of co-authorship

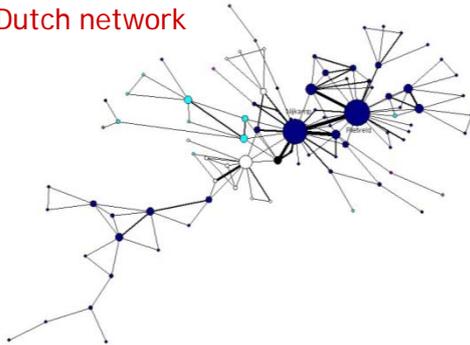
The role of distance in collaboration



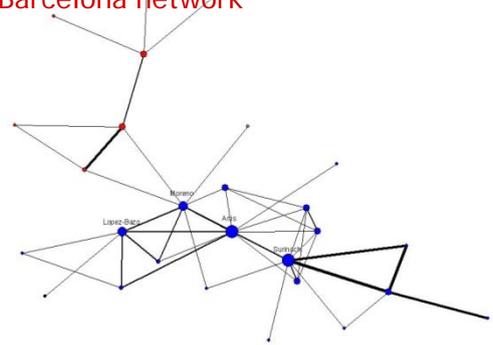
Co-authorship networks / authors



The Dutch network



The Barcelona network



Publication strategy...

- A PhD is only a means to an end - 'satisfy the examiners'. The 'end' is peer reviewed publication - collectively these are what constitute the 'body of scientific knowledge'
 - Aim for publication in refereed journals, with high impactfactors and low rejection rates (**seek rejections! Do not be disappointed!**)
 - Have a publication strategy: Need a 'pipeline'
 - All publications take a significant and variable amount of time going through the process:
- Working paper - conference paper - submission - revision - acceptance proofs citation?
- Go to conferences, seminars etc; offer papers: you learn from feedback and it gives discipline

Final remarks

- Advice: DO High quality research, find new topics, use up-to-date methodology, co-authors → be ambitious
- Go abroad to workshops, summerschools, conferences (ERSA!), research visits, give lunch seminars
- Apply for research grants, prizes etc.
- Publication strategy: ISI-rated journals, but also (chapters in) books, national journals, policy documents, interviews for TV, Radio, newspapers, etc.
- Presentations for policy makers: talk to them!
- Future: Open Access will win in the end
- Enjoy science and life: WRSA always goes to nice resorts (Hawaii!) → the way academic life should be